

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney Southern District of Indiana

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June 17, 2003

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COUPLE INDICTED FOR POSSESSION OF COCAINE WITH THE INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE

PRESS RELEASE

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that WALTER H. MARTIN, 29, and TAWANA FAIRLEY, 31, of Chicago, Illinois, were indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Indianapolis for possession with the intent to distribute more than 50 grams of cocaine base. The charges follow an investigation by the Indiana State Police, the Gibson County Sheriff's Department and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration Evansville Office.

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The indictment stems from a highway stop of MARTIN AND FAIRLEY on U.S. Highway 41, in Gibson County, on June 5, 2003, wherein the defendants were found in possession of approximately 140 grams of cocaine base.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthew P. Brookman, who is prosecuting the case for the government, MARTIN AND FAIRLEY face a maximum possible life prison sentence and a maximum possible fine of \$4,000,000. An initial hearing will be scheduled before a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Evansville.

The indictment is an allegation only, and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty at trial or by guilty plea.

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